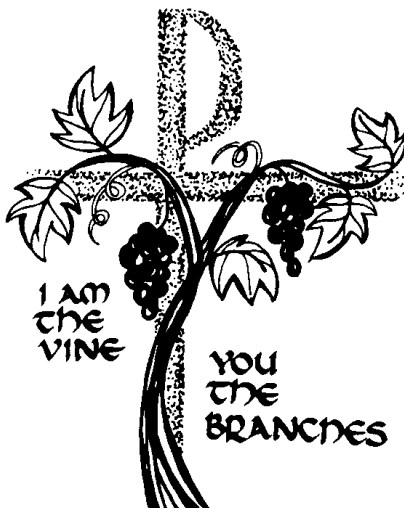




FOR IT IS BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED,  
THROUGH FAITH—AND THIS NOT FROM  
YOURSELVES, IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD.  
*EPH 2:8-9*

May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015  
Fifth Sunday of Easter



## Connected to the Vine

**CROSS OF GLORY LUTHERAN CHURCH & LEARNING CENTER**

5500 STUMBERG LANE, BATON ROUGE, LA 70816

CHURCH: 225-752-5503

PASTOR STEVEN HAHM

PASTOR@CROSSOFGLORYLUTHERAN.COM

**WWW.CROSSOFGLORYLUTHERAN.COM**



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Baton Rouge, LA 70816  
www.crossofglorylutheran.com

***Welcome!*** We are glad you are here with us today. Our service today follows an order of worship which places the spotlight on God’s Word and its central message of peace through Jesus. You can follow the outline of the service in this worship folder. The hymn numbers refer to the red hymnal: Christian Worship (CW) or the blue hymnal: Christian Worship Supplement (CWS).

***Holy Communion:*** We offer classes (Basic Bible Christianity) for those desiring to take the sacrament. If you are a newcomer, please take these classes before communing or speak with our pastor.

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## ORDER OF SERVICE: WORD AND SACRAMENT

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**HYMN.....With High Delight Let Us Unite (CW #168)**

*STAND*

**M:** The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

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## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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**M:** God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

- C:** Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.
- M:** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.
- C:** Amen.

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## PRAYER AND PRAISE

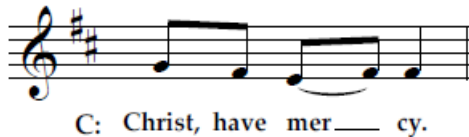
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### LORD, HAVE MERCY (*KYRIE*)

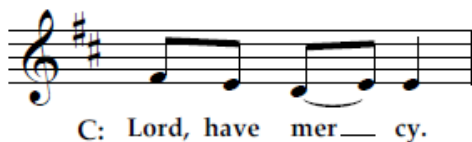
- M:** For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



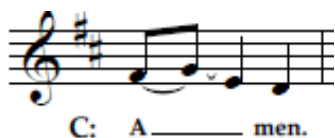
- M:** For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



- M:** For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



**M:** Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



**M:** The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise

### GLORY BE TO GOD (*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS*)



1 All glo - ry be to God on high!  
2 Our grate - ful thanks to you we bring,  
3 O Lamb of God, to you we pray.  
4 You, Christ, are ho - ly— Lord a - lone;



Your name, O Lord, we glo - ri - fy;  
For your great glo - ry, heav'n - ly King,  
You take all hu - man sin a - way.  
The Fath - er's glo - ry you made known.



We praise you for your peace and grace,  
For all, O Fath - er, you have done  
Have mer - cy, Lord; re - ceive our prayer;  
We by your Spir - it sing a - gain:

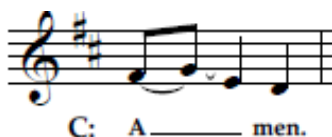


Your fav - or toward our fal - len race.  
Through Je - sus Christ, your on - ly Son.  
From God's right hand, your mer - cy share.  
"All glo - ry be to God!" A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M:** Let us pray.

O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED

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## THE WORD OF GOD

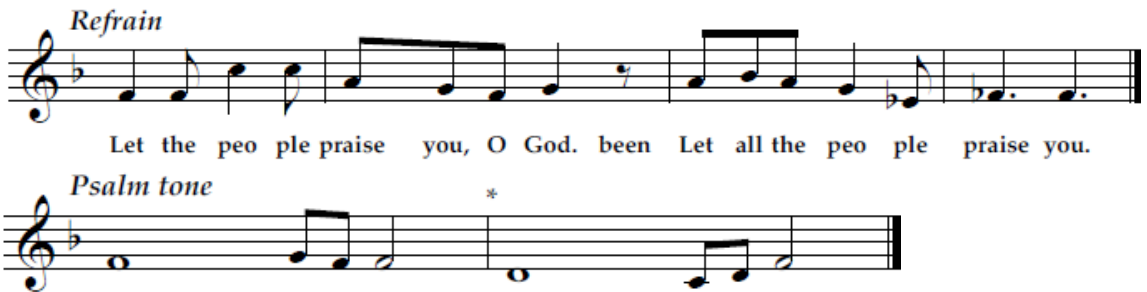
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### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

#### FIRST LESSON.....Acts 8:26-40

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road-- the desert road-- that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza."<sup>27</sup> So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship,<sup>28</sup> and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the book of Isaiah the prophet.<sup>29</sup> The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it."<sup>30</sup> Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked.<sup>31</sup> "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.<sup>32</sup> The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture: "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth."<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth."<sup>34</sup> The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?"<sup>35</sup> Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.<sup>36</sup> As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?"<sup>37</sup> <sup>38</sup> And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

PSALM OF THE DAY.....Psalm 67



**M:** May God be gracious to us and ‘bless us\*

**C:** And make his face shine up ‘on us;

**M:** May your ways be ‘known on earth, \*

**C:** Your salvation among all ‘nations.

**M:** May the nations be glad and ‘sing for joy, \*

**C:** For you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations ‘of the earth.

*Refrain*

**M:** Then the land will yield its ‘harvest, \*

**C:** And God, our God, will ‘bless us.

**M:** God will ‘bless us, \*

**C:** And all the ends of the earth will ‘fear him.

**C:** Glory be to the Father and ‘to the Son\*

And to the Holy ‘Spirit;

As it was in the be ‘ginning, \*

Is now, and will be forever. ‘Amen.

*Refrain*

SECOND LESSON.....1 John 3:18-24

*Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.<sup>19</sup> This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence<sup>20</sup> whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he*

knows everything.<sup>21</sup> Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God<sup>22</sup> and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him.<sup>23</sup> And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us.<sup>24</sup> Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

## THE VERSE OF THE DAY

*The cantor introduces the refrain. The congregation is invited to join in singing the refrain.*



*Cantor: Refrain*

**All: Refrain**

*Cantor: O sons and daughters let us sing the King of heaven, our glorious King, from death for us rose triumphing, Alleluia! Refrain.*

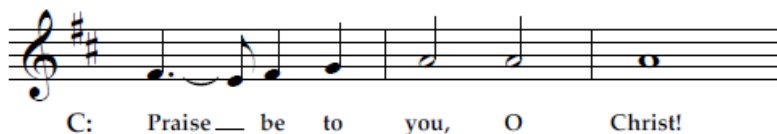
*Cantor: How blest are they who have not seen and yet whose faith has constant been, for they eternal life shall win, Alleluia! Refrain x 2.*

*STAND*

**GOSPEL.....JOHN 15:1-8**

*"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes<sup>[a]</sup> so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. <sup>5</sup> "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.*

**M:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



*BE SEATED*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**.....**Speak, O Savior; I Am Listening (CW #283)**

**SERMON**.....**John 15:1-8**

*“Connected to the Vine”*

#### **CONFESSION OF FAITH: NICENE CREED**

**C:** We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.



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# THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

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## OFFERING

*The members of Cross of Glory are happy to support its ministry with their financial gifts. If you are visiting us today, do not feel obligated to give an offering.*

*STAND*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**M:** O Lord God, our strength, our song, and our salvation, You fulfilled Your promises by the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, from the dead.

**C:** **Thanks be to God! You give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**M:** In Your compassion You sent Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down His life to rescue the lost.

**C:** **Drive out all doubt and gloom that we may delight in Your glorious triumph.**

**M:** Lift our eyes heavenward to see Him who lives to make intercession for the saints. Keep before us the vision of Your redeemed people standing before Your throne singing the song of victory:

**C:** **Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive wisdom and power and honor and glory and praise.**

**M:** Make us instruments of Your peace as we bring the good news of hope and new life to those around us. Guide us in the use of all that You have entrusted to us: our time, our talents, and our treasures.

**C:** **Risen Lord, live in us that we may live for You.**

**M:** Merciful Lord Jesus, grant healing to the sick, and strengthen the faith of the suffering and the dying. Assure them of Your abiding presence, and comfort them with the hope of eternal life.

*Special prayers may follow*

**M:** Hear us, Lord, as we bring You our private petitions.

*Silent prayer*

- M:** Gracious Father, You have restored to us the joy of Your salvation. With happy hearts, we come before You and say:
- C:** **Alleluia! Thanks be to God! Amen.**
- M:** We join in the prayer your Son has taught us:
- C:** **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

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## THE SACRAMENT

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**M:** The Lord be with you.



**C:** And al so with you.

**M:** Lift up your hearts.



**C:** We lift them up to the Lord.

**M:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.



**M:** Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (*SANCTUS*)

C: Ho ly, ho ly, — ho ly is the — Lord of hosts. The whole

earth is — full — of your — glo ry. You are my — God and

I will ex alt you. I will give you thanks for — you have be come my sal

va tion. Ho ly, ho ly, — ho ly is the — Lord of hosts. The whole

earth is — full — of your — glo — ry.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**M:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C: A \_\_\_\_\_ men.

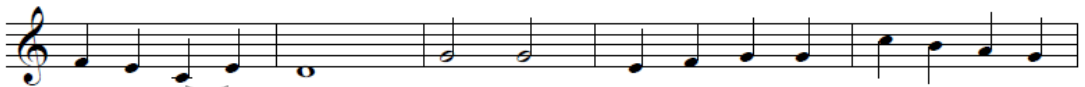
## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (*AGNUS DEI*)



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a way the sin of the world; have mer cy on\_\_



us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a way the sin of the world; have



mer cy on\_\_ us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a way the



sin of the world; grant us your peace. A \_\_\_\_\_ men.

## DISTRIBUTION (Hymn: Chief of Sinners though I Be - CW #385)

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## CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

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**M:** Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



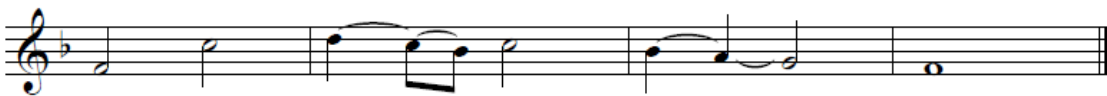
C: A \_\_\_\_\_ men.

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.



C: A men. A \_\_\_\_\_ men. A \_\_\_\_\_ men.

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**CLOSING HYMN.....Sent Forth by God's Blessing (CW # 318)**

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# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **MEASURE OF LOVE**

Last Sunday's Attendance : Worship: 42; Communion: 25.  
Offerings to the Lord: General Fund: \$945.

## **WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

Mon. - Thu. (5/4-5/6)	Pastor Conference at Mighty Fortress Lutheran, Hiram, GA
Saturday (5/9):	8:00 a.m. Church Work Day
Sunday (5/10):	9:15 a.m. Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
	10:30 a.m. Worship
	11:30 a.m. Mother's Day Reception

## **CHURCH WORK DAY THIS SATURDAY**



We will be having a work day at church this Saturday. There is much work to be done involved with closing the Learning Center as well as general upkeep of the property. We will begin at 8 a.m. Many hands make light work!

## **MOTHER'S DAY AT CROSS OF GLORY**



We will be celebrating Mother's Day (Sunday, May 10th) at Cross of Glory with a special worship service honoring mothers. Following worship, we will have a reception under the walkway with cake and ice cream served by the children and the men of the congregation. This is a great opportunity to invite friends and family to worship and give thanks to God for the blessing of Christian mothers.